

NEW DESCRIPTIONS

RECORD OF THE GENUS *SCHIZOPRYMNUS* FOERSTER (HYMENOPTERA: BRACONIDAE) FROM INDIA, WITH DESCRIPTIONS OF TWO NEW SPECIESZUBAIR AHMAD^{1,2} AND ZAHEER AHMED¹¹Section of Entomology, Department of Zoology, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh 202 002, Uttar Pradesh, India.²Email: dzubair@gmail.com

The genus *Schizoprymnus* Foerster of the subfamily Brachistinae (Hymenoptera: Braconidae) is recorded for the first time from India. Two new species, namely *Schizoprymnus indicus* sp. nov. and *Schizoprymnus transiens* sp. nov., are described and illustrated. The diagnostic characters of these two species have been provided.

Key words: Hymenoptera, Braconidae, Brachistinae, *Schizoprymnus*, new record, new species, India

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Schizoprymnus* Foerster belongs to the subfamily Brachistinae. It is mainly characterized by presence of anterior three metasomal tergites immovably fused to form a metasomal carapace and absence of two transverse sutures on the carapace. However, some species of *Schizoprymnus* have the carapace with the first suture almost entirely and the second one at least laterally developed (Papp 1984, 1991, 1993; Belokobylskij 1994, 1998). The members of this genus are endoparasitoids of larval Coleoptera (Shaw and Huddleston 1991).

The Indo-Australian species of *Schizoprymnus* were revised by Papp (1984, 1991, 1993). Currently, it is represented by 35 species from the Indo-Australian region (Papp 1993). In the present work, the genus is recorded for the first time from India and two species are described as new. Sharkey and Wharton (1997) have been followed for terminologies

The following abbreviations are used in the text: OOL – ocello-ocular line (distance from the outer edge of a lateral ocellus to the compound eye); POL – post-ocellar line (distance between the inner edges of the two lateral ocelli); AOL – anterior-ocellar line (distance between the inner edges of anterior and lateral ocellus); OD – diameter of an ocellus; ZDAMU- Zoology Department, Aligarh Muslim University.

Schizoprymnus indicus sp. nov.

(Figs 1-4)

Female: Body length, 1.9 mm; forewing length, 1.5 mm.

Head: Dorsally 1.7x as wide as long; OOL:POL:AOL:OD = 4:5:10:2; eyes in dorsal view 2x as long as temple; temple punctuate, rounded behind eyes; face

punctuate 2.8x as wide as high medially; malar space about 2.5x basal width of mandible; antennae 23 segmented, shorter than the body length.

Mesosoma: Length of mesosoma 1.4x its height; mesoscutum smooth; notauli deep and crenulate, posteriorly merging with a few large foveae; scutellum smooth and polished; mesopleuron smooth medially, punctuate to foveolate posteriorly; propodeum reticulate rugose; fore wing 1.15x as long as body length; pterostigma 2.6x as long as wide, issuing vein r slightly distally from its middle; radial cell rather short, proximal section of metacarp 0.3x as long as pterostigma; distal section of metacarp as long as proximal section; length of hind femur 3.5x as long as broad, hind tibia about as long as tarsi; tibial spur about 0.3x as long as basitarsus.

Metasoma: Carapace reticulate rugose, 1.8x as long as wide in dorsal view; suture between first and second tergites distinct while absent between second and third tergites; apical rim of carapace semicircularly excised with a pair of denticles; ovipositor sheaths in lateral view distinctly shorter than carapace.

Colour: Black; mandible, tegulae, legs light yellowish brown; antennae, ovipositor sheaths and wing venation blackish brown.

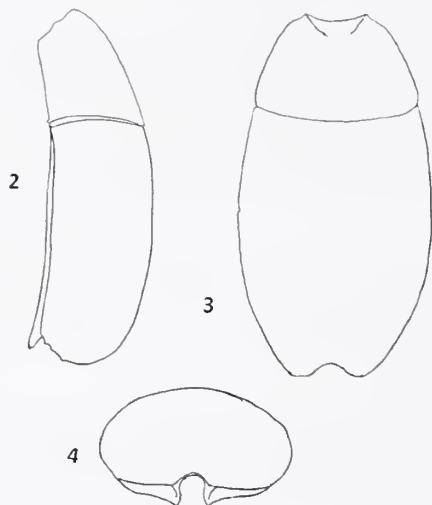
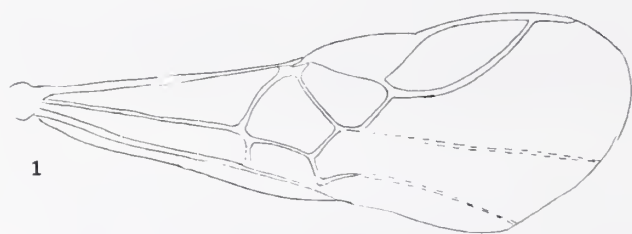
Male: Similar to female, except body size and genital organs.

Holotype: ♀, INDIA: Jammu and Kashmir, Rajouri, 1.iv.2000, Coll. Zaheer Ahmed (ZDAMU); **Paratypes:** 1 ♀, 1 ♂, data same as holotype (ZDAMU)

Host: Unknown.

Distribution: INDIA: Jammu and Kashmir.

Remarks: *Schizoprymnus indicus* sp. nov. closely resembles *Schizoprymnus tortilis* Papp, but differs in having: antennae 23 segmented (antennae 17-19 segmented in *tortilis*); carapace 1.8x as long as wide (carapace about as long as wide

Figs 1-4: *Schizoprymnus indicus* sp. nov.

1. Forewing; 2. Metasoma, lateral view;
3. Metasoma, dorsal view; 4. Metasoma, view from behind

in *tortilis*), distal section of metacarp 0.3x as long as proximal section (distal section of metacarp 0.5x as long as proximal section in *tortilis*).

Etymology: The new species is named after its type locality.

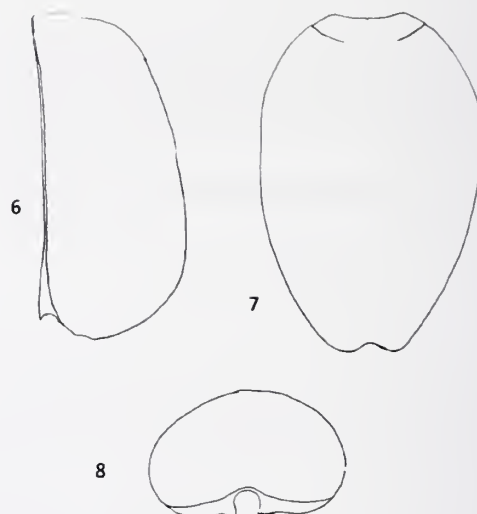
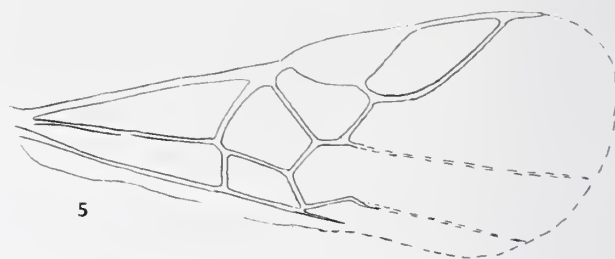
***Schizoprymnus transiens* sp. nov.**

(Figs 5-8)

Female: Body length, 2.1 mm; forewing length, 1.6 mm.

Head: Transverse, 2.0x as wide as long dorsally; OOL:POL:AOL:OD = 5:8:9:3; eyes in dorsal view about as long as temple; temple rounded behind eyes; vertex smooth except few indistinct punctures; face finely punctuate, 3.2x as wide as high medially; clypeus finely punctuate, 2.1x as wide as high; malar space about 1.2x basal width of mandible; antennae broken beyond 21 segments.

Mesosoma: Stout, 1.6x as long as high laterally; middle lobe of mesoscutum indistinctly punctuate, lateral lobe smooth; notauli deep and crenulate, posteriorly merging with few large foveae; scutellum smooth medially punctuate to foveolate elsewhere; propodeum reticulate rugose, notched antero-medially; forewing 0.8x as long as body length;

Figs 5-8: *Schizoprymnus transiens* sp. nov.

5. Forewing; 6. Metasoma, lateral view; 7. Metasoma, dorsal view
8. Metasoma, view from behind

pterostigma 2.3x as long as wide, issuing vein r from its middle; radial cell rather short, proximal section of metacarp as long as pterostigma; distal section of metacarp 0.3x as long as proximal section; length of hind femur 3.5x as long as broad; hind tibia 1.1x as long as tarsi; hind tibial spur about 0.28x as long as basitarsus.

Metasoma: Carapace longitudinally rugose, 1.4x as long as wide in dorsal view; suture between first second and third tergites distinct only laterally; apical rim of carapace semicircularly excised with a pair of dentacles; ovipositor sheaths in lateral view distinctly shorter than carapace.

Colour: Black; mandible, tegulae, legs clypeus antennae up to fifth segments honey yellow; antennae beyond fifth segments, ovipositor sheaths and wing venation blackish brown.

Male: Unknown.

Holotype: ♀, INDIA: Uttar Pradesh, Bulandshahr, 1.iv.2000. Coll. Zubair Ahmad (ZDAMU). **Paratype:** 1 ♀, same data as holotype (ZDAMU).

Host: Unknown.

Distribution: INDIA: Uttar Pradesh.

Remarks: *Schizoprymnus transiens* sp. nov. also resembles *Schizoprymnus tortilis* Papp, but differs in having: mesosoma stout (mesosoma moderate in *tortilis*); carapace

1.4x as long as wide (carapace about as long as wide in *tortilis*), ovipositor sheaths in lateral view distinctly shorter than carapace (ovipositor sheaths in lateral view as long as carapace in *tortilis*); ocelli large (ocelli small in *tortilis*).

Etymology: The new species is named after its intermediate form between *S. indicus* sp. nov. and *S. tortilis* Papp.

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